REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is in reply to the Office Action dated May 14, 2003. The Examiner set a shortened one (1) month time period for response. Therefore, the time period for response extends up to and includes June 14, 2003.

Based on the Restriction Requirement set forth in the outstanding Action, Applicants elect Group I, claims 2-4, 8-11 and 15-18, drawn to a slider scale package assembly.

Claims 24-27 have been cancelled above without prejudice or disclaimer as being drawn to a non-elected group (e.g., the current Group II of the May 14, 2003 Action). Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 24-27 in a divisional application.

New claims 28-33 have been added. Applicants note that claims 28-33 are readable on the elected Species I/Subspecies I. However, Applicants believe that new claim 28 is generic for the reasons set forth in Applicants' response dated January 29, 2002.

In view of the above, Applicants request consideration and allowance of the pending claims. If a phone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues related to this matter, please contact Applicant's Representative signed below at 612.336.4755.

23552
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: 16 June 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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BHB:JNR:PSTkaw:ae

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

Claims 24-27 have been cancelled.

Claims 28-33 are new.